

Near Jacksonville, Fla.
Sept. 30, 1876.

Spring commencing - Mocking birds
are singing again & new plants
appearing as rapidly as in June.
I have now found 15 sps. of *Cyperus*
& 16 of *Panicum* (more to come?)
P. molle is abundant on my own river
shore. *P. melicarium* & *P. histellum*
I have from Ga. & several sps. I
cannot determine satisfactorily.
P. dichotomum in its numerous &
interesting forms I have not collected
here. Of fall plants I find the
grasses most attractive - *Eriarthrus*,
Eustachys, *Andropogon*, *Eragrostis*,
Cenium, & the exquisite *Dooghium*
secundum (?), which must be seen
growing to be appreciated.

I shall be greatly obliged for any
assistance, including advice about
the method of my distribution.

Yours very truly
W. A. Porter

Prof. A. Gray.

Dear Sir - I was much
gratified by your letter of the
12th inst., and supposing that
you are now returned to
regions more classic than
Greensboro, Tenn., I will
write you more definitely about
my contemplated distribution of
Gr. plants.

My plan is to select 300 sps. for
this year's distr. & the same number
for next year's; but whether I shall
confine myself to the first this year
or distr. both in part will
depend on the number of subscribers.
Although my stock is large, I might
not be able to find 300 sps. which
I could distr. to 15 persons after
reserving a set for you & for myself.

In that case I would send you
600 sp. & divide those sp. among
the subscribers, ^{completing the 2 sets next year.} In future years
I could collect in proper quantity.
I would have a N^o for each sp.
& keep an exact record of the N^o
distr. to each subscriber, so that
afterwards I could complete the
sets, as also the specimens if lacking
fr. or fls. If the number of subscr.
should warrant the expense I would
have printed labels for each sp.
If you will take the trouble to send
brief notices to the leading
journals, home & foreign, pretty soon,
I shall know by the end of Fall how
to go to work. By that time I will
have my plants systematised & be
ready to make up your set, & by the
time you have examined them &
revised my labelling I shall know
definitely how many sets to prepare.

In your announcement I would wish
it to be specified that you would
make such revision, & that it is
my intention to collect & distr.
complete herbaria of distinctively
Southern plants, the sets or fascicles
to consist of 300 sp. & vars. each,
one to be issued each winter or spring.
Price, \$25. per set, charges prepaid
by mail, or by express to New York.
(At small expense I could send a
box of packages by steamer to N. York,
to be forwarded from there by a
friend.) The spms. will be on
white paper, & the labels printed if
subscriptions warrant it —
I was surprised to hear from
you in Penn. Those S. Mts. are
delightful — some of them; but
they are going into their secret
yellow garb by this time.
Here there seems to be a second